

## THE COOS BAY COUNTRY

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They were distributed to the Willamette valley and northern California. It was an important town in those days, but a store, hotel and several other buildings are all that remain to tell the story of its pioneer importance.

Leaving Reedsport, the track parallels the ocean and skirts several lakes. There is a magnificent body of spruce along the line and several camps are now being operated taking out the spruce for government use. Just after leaving Reedsport we passed a long freight train, one-third of the cars being loaded with rived spruce for delivery at Vancouver, Washington, to be manufactured into airplane stock, and while speaking of spruce, let it be stated that the Coos Bay spruce has been found superior to all others with the possible exception of the spruce a little further up the coast.

Through tunnels, along lake shores and sloughs, the road winds until the beautiful little resort of Lakeside is reached. Many who prefer the quiet of the forests and lakes to the roar and grandeur of the ocean, have summer homes at Lakeside instead of along the beaches. Leaving Lakeside several small stations are passed and then the road swings abruptly to the left and before you realize it, you are crossing Coos Bay on that magnificent steel structure almost a mile long and a few minutes later, the train rolls into North Bend. This thriving little city is located on the south shore of Coos Bay about two miles from Marshfield. It has a population of 3500. The buildings are substantial, some of the streets are paved and there is a get-up-and-go which reminds one of a real city. Several sawmills, iron works, box factories and the Kruse & Banks shipyard add to the business activity of the little city. North Bend was

really founded by the late A. M. Simpson who many years ago established the first sawmill there and built sailing vessels. Later on the management of the Simpson affairs were placed in the hands of L. J. Simpson and he at once began the development of North Bend. The many industries there, the beautiful Simpson park which was donated to the city by the Simpson estate, and other enterprises, were all backed by Louis Simpson, and he is rightly called the father of North Bend. Or he has always stood sponsor for the town and without him North Bend would not now be the fine little city it is.

Leaving North Bend the train passes sawmills, shipyards, canneries and other industries and in ten minutes you are at the depot in Marshfield. The dividing line between North Bend and Marshfield is not noticeable to the traveler as the towns adjoin and only the imaginary line separates them.

Marshfield is the commercial metropolis of the Coos Bay country.



MARSHFIELD—METROPOLIS OF THE COOS BAY COUNTRY

It, also, is located on the south shore of Coos Bay and in a direct line, only a few miles from the ocean. It has a population of about 6500. All the modern conveniences of a larger city are to be found in Marshfield and the Chandler hotel, a modern and model hostelry looks after the comfort of the visitor. The great Smith sawmill is located here and the day we visited the mill the cut for an eight hour shift was 318,000 feet. All the mills on Coos Bay are centering their work on spruce and white cedar for government use and the domestic trade must take the loadings or look elsewhere for their supply.

The shipyards on Coos Bay are far ahead of any we have seen. Modern devices, electric carrying cranes, big machine shops and other necessary works which will expedite the work of building ships are Uncle Sam. As a matter of record it might be stated that the Kruse & Banks shipyard received the government's rating of 100 per cent on efficiency and the Marshfield yard came next, so the two shipbuilding plants of Coos Bay hold the highest record given out by the government. Eleven hundred men are employed in the two plants.

The hospitality of the people of Coos Bay is equal to that of Pendleton and eastern Oregon and they lead the world. It was through their hospitality that the editors were able to see the spruce logging operations of the McDonald & Vaughn Logging company, who are getting out 125,000 feet of spruce each day to be used for airplane stock. The hungry editors and their wives and families were served with a fine dinner at the camp and later taken via autos to Shore Acres, the palatial seaside home of Louis Simpson, where the editors held their final business session. Shore Acres is built on a high bluff overlooking the ocean. The house is about 30 feet from the ocean and the waves dash against the high rock bluff, oftentimes sending the spray over the big building. Shore Acres is beyond description—back of it the giant spruce and fir trees tower and in front of it, the mighty Pacific rolls and thunders. Looking in any direction, one is impressed with the grandeur of nature and feels a loftiness of character and spirit as he gazes on the wonderful works of God.

The editors left Shore Acres at 6 o'clock and went to Sunset Beach, where the good people of the Coos country had prepared a sea food supper and to those inland people, the supper was something great. Baked salmon, clams, muscles, clam chowder, etc., etc., were served, and after dancing and music, the many waiting automobiles were filled with tired sightseers and the 14 miles to Marshfield was made in 35 minutes over a good macadam road along the bay. While speaking of the bay and this ride, it occurs to us that we passed Empire City, one of the oldest towns on the bay. Years ago a sawmill, cannery and fishing concern operated from this place, but when the north and south portions of the county fell out, the county seat was moved from Empire City to Coquille and the city that the old pioneers remember has fallen into the "has been" class, but recently W. L. Clark of North Bend has leased the idle mill and plans to start it up in the near future. Empire City will again come into prominence. The old mill there was built in the 80's. It was operated for only a short time and then closed down and nothing has been done since, though the machinery has been kept in good condition. When the mill resumes operation, employment will be given to 250 to 300 men and women and the little town founded by pioneers of the Oregon country will regain or rather obtain the importance which the pioneers knew would eventually come.

Sunday morning the editors and party left on the S. P. train for Myrtle Point, 36 miles south of Marshfield. After leaving Marshfield and crossing Mills slough, the train entered the fertile and famous Coquille valley. Coquille, the county seat, a town of 2,000 was first reached. This charming and prosperous little city is situated on the Coquille river. It is the center of the famous Coquille farming and dairying district and a prosperous town. The people are patriotic and hospitable and have the Coos Bay spirit of progressiveness. The train, however, stopped for only a few minutes at this pioneer city and the party went on to Myrtle Point, where scores of automobiles were waiting to whisk the press people on an enjoyable trip up the Coquille valley. Fine farms, orchards and residences dot this fertile valley and peaceful dairy herds are seen browsing in the lowlands. The farmers in the valley have banded together and formed the Coos and Curry Cheese Manufacturers association and the several cheese factories in the valley with their thousands of pounds of good cheese ready for shipment indicates the great advantages of co-operation and working together.

The good residents of this vicinity after affording their visitors an opportunity to look over the valley, brought them back to Myrtle Point and thence to Coquille, ten miles further on. The hospitable people of the city had a nice lunch prepared in the city's myrtle grove and for real hospitality and cordial friendship, Coquille is par excellence. Every visitor was made to feel at home and in the midst of friends. After lunch the river steamer Telegraph, was pressed into service and the editors and party embarked on a delightful 24-mile trip down the winding Coquille river, passing landmarks which marked pioneer days of the Coos County residents. Bandon, that charming little city of 2000 inhabitants and nestled close to the Pacific, was reached at 5 o'clock and waiting automobiles took the party to the famed Bandon beach. Later, the party returned to the Bandon hotel where a good dinner was served and a sight-seeing tour of the city made. Bandon is located at the mouth of Coquille river and is the seaport for the Coquille valley and Northern Curry county. Boat building, lumbering, dairying, fishing and stock raising are the principal industries. Its location on the coast in connection with the beauty of its beaches, makes of it a popular seaside resort.

The good folks of Marshfield and North Bend had autos waiting to take the sight-seeing party to Marshfield and the 32-mile trip over the Seven Devils road was made in about two and one half hours. While Coos Bay is rich in undeveloped resources, one resource has been developed and that is the spirit of co-operation among the several centers of business, activity. All realize that Coos Bay, with her harbor facilities, her coal mines, her magnificent forests, her adequate water front, make a combination of resources which cannot be excelled and Coos Bay is pulling all together for the further development of that country. Coos Bay will become one of the leading localities in Oregon. It has the natural resources and it has citizens who are working together for the advancement, not of Marshfield, not of North Bend, Coquille or other important points in this section, but for the advancement of the COOS BAY COUNTRY. Citizens of the community are willing and anxious to show to the new comer the advantages of Coos Bay and we could not refer to a better booster than L. McCollum of the firm of McCollum & Painter, who thinking the editor of the Mist, wanted to know something of the community took the time and trouble to show him the points of interest and importance. Any other citizen of the community would have been glad to do the same. That is the community spirit on Coos Bay and that is why Coos Bay is going ahead. They work together, for it is a united community. Would that St. Helens had the same spirit.

And while we are writing about Coos Bay let us pay a tribute to H. G. Kern, mayor of North Bend and owner of the North Bend Iron Works. This man Kern would rather entertain visitors and boost Coos Bay than take a \$1000 order for his big manufacturing concern.

## The Hunting Season Is On

—We have prepared for the hunter's wants and have a large line of

## Guns, Rifles and Ammunition

Winchester and Stevens  
Rifles and Shotguns

—We have a large supply of Ammunition and can supply your wants at once. We also have fishing tackle and camping necessities. Before going on that hunting or camping trip, let us outfit you with what you need.

—Hardware, Tools, Kitchen Utensils and everything else in the Hardware Line, you will find at our store.

—We sell Brunswick Auto Tires. No Better Made. Try One.

## E. G. DITTO

Telephone No. 97

St. Helens, Oregon

## Men's Dress Pants

—We have just received a large shipment of Men's Dress Pants. They are well made, of nice materials and good colors. All sizes. Priced from \$3.50 to \$7.50.

## Men's Work Clothes

—For clothes that will stand the hardest wear, the common sense kind that are good honest quality all through, give us a trial. No better Overalls are made than Carhart's. We have them.

## The Shoes for Boys

—This is where we shine for we have the best line carried—BERGMAN'S. Get the boy a pair of Bergman's. They are all leather and will last a long time. For men we have JUST-WRIGHT, in several different styles, black and tan in all widths. \$6.00 to \$10.00. The price of leather is constantly advancing, so better look after your shoe needs now and come to our store for them.

## FRED MORGUS

The Home of Good Merchandise

## JOG YOUR MEMORY

Before You Start on  
that Vacation Trip

A moment's meditation now may save you a world of worry after you reach your destination. There are things you'll need while away that cannot be found in out-of-the-way places. Insure the comforts and conveniences by stocking up before you go.

## A List of Suggestions May Prove Helpful

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Stationery       | Headache Remedy      |
| Fountain Pens    | Adhesive Plaster     |
| Drinking Cups    | Antiseptic Solutions |
| Thermos Bottles  | Dentifrice           |
| Candy            | Tooth Brushes        |
| Shaving Supplies | Playing Cards        |
| Cold Cream       | Mosquito Lotions     |
| Lotions          | Summer Remedies      |
| Combs            | Soaps                |
| Brushes          | Bathing Caps         |
| Fishing Tackle   | Bath Supplies        |

Start right—and write us while away for anything you may need

## A. J. DEMING

ST. HELENS, OREGON

## Special for Saturday

Seasonable Things  
for the Table

—Lettuce, New Cabbage, Carrots, Ripe Red Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Wax Beans, Celery, Green Onions, Sweet Potatoes, Fresh Raspberries, Peaches, Green Apples, Cantaloupes, Watermelons, Oranges, all sizes, Fresh Ripe Bananas, California Grape Fruit, Corn, Egg Plant, Pears, Plums and many other good things which will help you make a good meal.

## In Our Grocery Department

—You are assured of securing only the best. Our Quality Canned Goods, the Red Ribbon brand, have a high reputation to maintain and their excellence is not surpassed. We carefully avoid handling the poorer grades of canned goods and groceries for our trade, though we might make larger profits by stocking them.

## Prompt Service is Our Watchword



If you don't trade with us we both lose money.

St. Helens  
Mercantile Co.

Phone 80

St. Helens, Oregon

DON'T FORGET—WE MAKE DAILY DELIVERIES